



Maryland Agriculture Data

Weekly Crop and Weather Report



MD-CW0802

MAY 20, 2002

Wet Weather with Cool Temperatures

Cool and wet conditions last week allowed Maryland farmers only 4.6 **days suitable for field work**. Rain in Garrett and Allegany Counties allowed farmers less than one full day of fieldwork, which hindered planting activities. The weekend showers received in the other northern counties has assured that topsoil moisture will be adequate for spring crop establishment. Precipitation in these counties has been slightly above average for May, so far. The southern counties, however, remain about one half inch below average for the month. Temperatures to end the week were about 15 degrees cooler than the average.

Farmers in many areas are hoping for warm, dry weather so they can harvest hay. Twenty-nine percent of **other hay, first cutting** has been harvested, 1 percent behind last year, and 3 percent ahead of the five year average. Alfalfa hay, first cutting is 34 percent harvested, 1 percent behind last year, and 5 percent ahead of average.

Row crop planting continues slightly ahead of schedule. **Corn** planting is now 80 percent complete, 3 percent behind last year, and 3 percent ahead of the five year average. **Soybeans** are 19 percent planted, 2 percent ahead of last year and 6 percent ahead average.

MARYLAND'S CROP PROGRESS FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 19, 2002 (PERCENT)

ITEM	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1997-2001
Small Grain Development:				
Barley, turned	28	- -	9	23
Winter Wheat, headed	96	78	61	77
Tobacco, transplanted	48	35	17	18
Planting Progress:				
Cantaloupes	57	43	63	68
Cucumbers	39	25	37	45
Field Corn	80	67	83	77
Green Peas	10	- -	4	4
Lima Beans	20	10	14	17
Snap Beans	31	23	26	40
Sorghum	8	6	13	11
Soybeans	19	9	17	13
Sweet Corn	69	59	57	65
Tomatoes	67	42	74	69
Watermelons	36	26	38	54
Harvesting Progress:				
Strawberries, harvested	40	15	7	23
Other hay, 1 st cutting	29	15	30	26
Alfalfa, 1 st cutting	34	15	35	29

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 19, 2002 (PERCENT)

Condition	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Topsoil Moisture	1	13	76	10
Topsoil (2001)	30	41	24	5
Subsoil Moisture	4	49	43	4
Subsoil (2001)	8	47	45	0

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